

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ACDA-05 /103 W

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R 011106Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6085

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 7479

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC PARM

SUBJ: CONSULTATIONS ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS (LAW OF WAR)

1. CONSULTATIONS ON WEAPONS QUESTIONS CONCLUDED ON 30 SEPTEMBER. MEETINGS HOSTED BY UK MISSION AND ATTENDED BY EC-OK PLUS US, CANADA AND AUSTRALIA.

2. GROUP DISCUSSED IN VERY GENERAL TERMS SUBSTANCE OF POSSIBLE RESTRICTIONS ON VARIOUS WEAPONS CATEGORIES. TONE OF DISCUSSION WAS RELATIVELY CAUTIOUS, WITH FRENCH EXPRESSING MOST CONSERVATIVE VIEWPOINT. GROUP SEEMED GENERALLY IN AGREEMENT THAT PROHIBITION OF SPECIFIC TYPES OF WEAPONS WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE, BUT THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF MODEST WESTERN PROPOSALS ON MINES OR ON THE USE OF INCENDIARIES AGAINST POPULATED AREAS SHOULD BE FURTHER CONSIDERED. GROUP BRIEFLY DISCUSSED MODIFIED UK MINE PROPOSAL, BUT OTHERWISE DID NOT DEAL WITH SPECIFICS OF ANY POSSIBLE WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS. ONLY OTHER DRAFT TEXTS PROPOSED WERE MODEST BELGIAN "SUGGSTIONS" ON SEVERAL POINTS. US REPS WILL BRIEF INTERESTED OFFICS ON RETURN TO WASHINGTON.

3. ON SUBJECT OF FURTHER WESTRN COORDINATION, GROUP AGREED THAT WESTERN DELS SHOULD CONSULT AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE PRIOR TO LUGANO WITH AIM OF REACHING COMMON POSITIONS, AND THAT ANY WESTERN DEL DESIRING TO MAKE WEAPONS PROPOSALS WOULD FIRST CONSULT WITHIN GROUP TO ACHIEVE CONSENSUS IF POSSIBLE. GROUP AGREED TO MEET
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AGAIN FROM 3-5 DECMBER IN GENEVA TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC WESTERN

PROPOSALS (MOST DELS PREFERRED NOT TO MEET IN NEW YORK); US AGREED TO ACT AS HOST FOR SESSIONS AT US MISSION. GROUP FURTHER AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO ONE-WEEK MEETING ARLY IN JANUARY TO ACCOMPLISH FINAL COORDINATION ON WESTERN POSITIONS AT LUGANO.

4. EATON (UK) PRIVATELY APPROACHED USDEL AFTER MEETING TO PASS ON TO ALDRICH REQUEST BY FREELAND THAT US HOST CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON FOR ABOUT 2 DAYS IN NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER ON GENERAL LOW SUBJECTS, INCLUDING REPRISALS, SANCTIONS AND LIBERATION WAR QUESTION. EATON SUGGESTD US, UK, CANADA, FRANCE AND POSSIBLY FRG BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. USDEL AGREED TO PASS SUGGESTION ALONG TO ALDRICH FOR LATER REPLY.DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, LAW OF WAR, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GENEVA07479
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750340-0838
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751093/aaaadfj.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIONS ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS (LAW OF WAR)
TAGS: PARM, US, UK, CA, AS, ICRC, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006